



Te Kura o Ngā Puna Waiora
Newtown School
Love learning, love life!

WEEK 6 | TERM 1 | MARCH 2019

Updates for the Friends and Whānau of Newtown School

Kia ora | خوش آمدید | Hola buenos días | malo e lelei | Goedemorgen | ようこそ | Talofa Lava | Bula |
Hallo zusammen | Mingalaba | Sua's dei | Ciao | Kia Orana | Namaste | Chao mung | أهلا بك |
maligayang pagdating | soo dhaweyn | 歡迎 | Vanakam | خوشمديد | καλώς ορίσατε



WHATS INSIDE

- NZEI - Union meeting
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Tēnā koutou katoa Ngā mihi nui, kia koutou katoa. Warm greetings to you all.

A major review of the New Zealand education system is presently underway by the government. Our society continues to change, so we as educators, must adapt what we teach, how we teach and learn new tools that can be used to engage our learners. When I trained as a teacher, I was paid to go to teachers college. After I graduated, I was posted to "country service" for a couple of years and, in my first principalship, decisions on managing the school were largely made by the Education Board. Major decisions and all staff appointments were centralised through the Education Board. Parents had very little involvement in governing the school and to get things done often involved a bureaucratic process of getting permission from the Education Board. Things as simple as painting a wall or building a playground would have needed permission.

So, in 1989, Tomorrow's Schools was established and the Education Act was amended. Essentially, this changed the educational landscape by shifting the responsibility to school communities to govern their school through parent elected representatives on a Board of Trustees. This gave more ownership and autonomy to school communities. It was a radical change back then and it took many years to embed.

It's hard to believe this was 30 years ago. The present government has conducted a review of Tomorrow's Schools to ensure it still reflects

IMPORTANT DATES

- 17 March - Weetbix Triathlon
- 25 March/ 27 March - Learning conversations
- 12 April - Last Day of Term 1
- 29 April - First day of Term 2
- 5 July - Last day of Term 2

ABSENCES

If your child is not going to be at school, please contact us as soon as possible. Remember to include your child's name and teacher.

Phone: 04 389 6667

Text: 020 40175659

Email: away@newtown.school.nz

SCHOOL TIMES

School Starts 9.00am

Interval 11.00-11.20am

Lunch 12.45-1.45pm

School Finishes 3.00pm

the needs of schools, learners and communities today. There are some significant changes suggested to enhance the future of New Zealand's education system. Some of the report's suggestions are welcome and others may spark debate.

The review has identified 8 key issues:

- Governance
- Schooling Provision
- Competition and Choice
- Disability and Learning Support
- Teaching
- School Leadership
- School Resourcing
- Central Education Agencies

Reviews of this size and scale do not happen very often and the proposed changes could completely reform how schools operate, thus affecting you as a parent and your child directly. Please, if you have time, I encourage you to read the newsletter article below with more information and become familiar with the reports contents. You can have your say, too!

Next week teachers around New Zealand are holding Paid Union Meetings to endeavour to settle collective award pay claims. **Newtown School will remain open for these meetings - school as normal next week.**

Learning Conversations have been rescheduled for Week 8 (Monday 25 March and Wednesday 27 March). I strongly encourage you to take this opportunity to talk to your child's home class teacher.

To book an interview time, go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/> event code **jjg8cw**

*Noho ora mai ra, Mark Brown
Principal - Tumuaki*

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE TOMORROW'S SCHOOLS REVIEW REPORT

Public consultation on the Tomorrow's Schools Review report, Our Schooling Futures, Stronger Together | Whiria Ngā Kura Tūātitini, is open until 7 April 2019. This can be done in the following ways:

Survey

An online survey is now open until 31 March for you to provide feedback on the key issues and recommendations in this report. [Click here to have your say.](#)

Written Submissions

Submissions can be emailed to tomorrows.schools@education.govt.nz

Oral Submissions

A free 0800 number for oral submissions is available to leave your thoughts on the future of our schooling system. Call 0800 FOR TSR (0800 367 877) to leave a message.

**HAVE YOU MISSED AN
IMPORTANT EMAIL FROM
THE OFFICE OR
YOUR CHILDS TEACHERS?!**

*Please add Newtown School
to your trusted contacts to
prevent
filtering out.*

WELCOME TO NEWTOWN SCHOOL

**A big warm welcome our new
students and their families.**

- Wade Bell
- Jayden Huo
- Ali Memari



MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Newtown School is at the heart of our local community, and benefits from the combined efforts of students, teachers, support staff and parents. One of the ways that parents can contribute to the running of our school is through the Board of Trustees. It is the board's role to provide governance for our school, ensuring that everything that needs to be done, gets done –legally, ethically and in the best interest of our students.

Boards of Trustees are elected every three years, with the next elections scheduled for JUNE this year. Standing for election to the board is a great way to get involved in your child's education, and to influence the strategic direction of our school.

Now is an excellent time to consider if you might wish to stand for election, or encourage someone else to stand. There are many ways to find out more about what the board does; the New Zealand School Trustees Association (NZSTA) are running a series of hui for potential trustees to come and find out what it means to serve on a school board. The hui will be facilitated by a regional advisor from NZSTA who will talk about the reality of being a trustee, and the support and training available.

Our local hui is at Wellington High School on Monday 1 st April at 6pm.

You could also

- Visit <https://www.trustee-election.co.nz/becoming-a-trustee> to read more about the role
- Come along to a board meeting – all parents are welcome to attend, and it is fine to leave at any time throughout the meeting. Our next meeting is **Wednesday 27th March at 6.30 pm** in the staff room. We would love to see you there.
- Chat to a current board member in the playground – we would be happy to answer any questions or talk about what being a board member is like (Or if you're feeling shy – leave your details with Trish at the office and a board member will give you a call).

Come and check it out !

MEASLES OUTBREAK

Are you and your family protected against Measles??

There is a large and ongoing outbreak of measles in Christchurch, with 26 cases as of 14 March. Auckland and Dunedin have now also reported measles cases.

Please make sure you and your family are up to date with your immunisations

ACT FAST

Phone your local medical centre to arrange to be immunised, if not protected.

Measles immunisation is free.

Don't delay: to be protected before the school holiday period, immunisation needs to occur by Saturday 30 March. This is because it takes ~ 14 days to develop protection after immunisation.

BOARD ELECTIONS 2019

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT NEWTOWN SCHOOL?

The Board of Trustees Elections are scheduled for June this year – offering all parents an opportunity to contribute the school, through standing for election or supporting others to stand.

If you are interested in finding out more, go to www.nzsta.org.nz

or contact Trish on trisht@newtown.school.nz.

UNION MEETING

In the week of 18 March, primary teachers and principals around the country who are NZEI Te Riu Roa members are heading to meetings to vote on whether to accept or reject the latest collective agreement offers from the government. They will also be voting on whether to take strike action should the offers be rejected.

Newtown School will remain open, to minimise disruption to teaching and learning on these meeting days.

These meetings are a crucial part of the 'Kua Tae Te Wā - It's Time' campaign. They're an opportunity for teachers and principals to come together to discuss the offer and decide the next steps.

We want to ensure teaching is an attractive profession for people to join and stay in, and we have asked that the government provide for better staffing to reduce class sizes and give us more time to teach and time to lead.

The offers received are only minimally different from what was offered (and rejected) last year. This is because the government has refused to increase the amount of money available. Already, many schools are having to make sacrifices because of the difficulty in recruiting teachers and relievers and we must take bold steps to turn this around.

We really appreciate your continued support. If these offers are rejected, it is the voices of parents and the wider public that will be key to forcing the government to listen as we continue our campaign to ensure every child gets the best possible education.

For more information, please go to <http://campaigns.nzei.org.nz/time/> or talk with your child's teacher.

LEARNING CONVERSATIONS

We encourage all parents to attend these formal learning conversations so that you are fully aware of your child's progress and achievements. To book an interview:

- Go to <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/>
- Use event code: **kg8cw**

If you need help to book your interview, please come to the school office.

Interview Days

- Monday 25 March 3:10pm-8.10pm (last interview starts 7:50pm)
- Wednesday 27 March 3:10pm-7.10pm

Each learning conversation will be 20 minutes long.



Newtown School will remain open, to minimise disruption to teaching and learning, on the days when Union Meetings are being held.

IS YOUR CHILD GETTING ENOUGH SLEEP?

We often get asked what parents could do to help with their child's learning. One element that definitely impacts positively on a child's ability to learn, and cope with school life in general, is getting plenty of sleep. It is recommended that primary school aged children need at least 10 hours sleep a night. A good nights sleep will help with memory retention, attention span, general well-being and ability to manage emotions; all of which are essential for learning.

Top tips for getting your children into a good sleep pattern; no technology at least an hour before bed, keep to a bedtime routine such as - brush teeth, story and sleep. You could also ask your child to use their mindfulness techniques* to help settle into a 'calm sleeping mode'. Hopefully as the weather starts to cool in the evenings, it will be easier to get our kids off to sleep; recent hot evenings have been a challenge for us all.

* How conscious breathing can help you sleep

1. Lie down on your bed and make yourself comfortable.
2. Breathe in through your nose for 5 counts.
3. Hold at the top of your breath for 2 counts.
4. Exhale through your mouth for 5 counts.
5. Repeat the process.

CURRICULUM CORNER

Written By Nicki Read - Deputy Principal

Change the world with Positive POWER, together! He waka eke noa!

The above camp theme was strongly in action at our Year 6 camp last week! We are so proud of our students who walked, faced challenges, conquered their fears and showed care for each other.

The student explained why we offered camp at Newtown. They said it is to:

- Grow leadership
- Be together
- Bond with different people and learn to trust them
- Learn that time away from home helps us want to do more on our own
- Take risks and get fit
- Communicate and make friends
- Go somewhere new and do something new
- Have fun and celebrate as a special year 6 experience.



A huge thank you for the generosity of parents and teachers who contributed to this awesome time together. Watch out for further pictures and news about camp.



Positive people power



Positive word power



Positive heart power

NEWTOWN SCHOOL & THE COMMUNITY

STUDY SUPPORT

Study Support will be back on board at the beginning of Term 2 for Year 5 and 6 students.

Monday-Thursday 3-4.30pm.

More details coming soon or contact Neesha on neeshap@newtown.school.nz for more information.

BILLY ANASTASIADIS-GRAY | STUDENT COUNSELLOR

Sometimes we can come up against problems that can make things pretty hard.

Problems can mess things up for us at home or at school, with our friends or whānau.

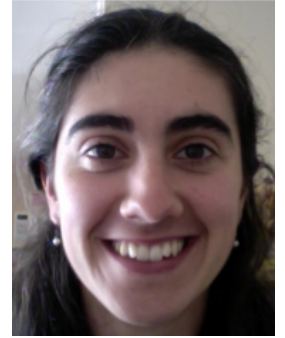
Counselling is a place we can come to when this is happening.

This year we are lucky to have Billy Anastasiadis-Gray with us as a student counsellor.

Billy used to be a teacher at Newtown School and now she is training to become a

counsellor. She is at school every Tuesday and Wednesday to meet with students and

their families for counselling.



If you would like to make an appointment or get more information about counselling,

please contact her on billya@newtown.school.nz

DO YOU HAVE A SPARE ELECTRIC GUITAR OR AMP?

Next term we are restarting the school band!

We are in need of an electric guitar and amp. If you have one lying around at home and would like to donate it to our

Rocking School Band, please let Gabrielle know. gabrielleh@newtown.school.nz

HOMESTAYS

NNZ School of Dance is looking for Homestays.

Do you have a spare room or sleepout? Could you provide short term (1-2 weeks) accommodation and board for visiting international students?

If interested please contact Alex Nicholson on 04 3819246 or alex.nicholson@nzschooldance.ac.nz

SCHOOL LUNCHES

At Newtown school we offer two options for brought lunches. These can be purchased online.

Pita Pit is available on Mondays and Sushi is available on Fridays. Please check out the links on kindo for pricing. www.kindo.co.nz



BEE HEALTHY | DENTAL HEALTH

As some of you may have seen, we have the mobile dental service at school.

If you have any concerns about your child's teeth please pop in to see the staff in the van.



All Welcome, Beginners to more experienced players

WHEN: Sunday 31 March

WHERE: National Hockey Stadium, Mount Albert Road, Newtown

TIME: 12-4pm

EXPECT: Quality Coaching, Fun Hockey Games, Competitions & Prizes

REGISTER: Head to www.wellingtonhockey.org.nz and click "HAVE A GO" under the "DEVELOPMENT" tab

CONTACT: Jenni Cronin, Development Manager, Capital Hockey, jenni@capitalhockey.org.nz, 0212098483



ISLAND BAY UNITED AFC JUNIOR FOOTBALL

NEW SEASON REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN

Places still available in our
First Kicks & Fun Football Grades
for players aged 5-8

VISIT IBUJUNIORS.ORG.NZ

EMAIL: IBUJUNIORS@GMAIL.COM



AFTER PRESCHOOL/SCHOOL AND 'ON THE GO' SNACKS



Children are often hungry at pick up time.
Here are some tips to get them through the afternoon....

- ♥ Firstly, have they finished what's in their lunchbox?
- ♥ Offer a drink of water. Sometimes it's thirst rather than hunger.
- ♥ A piece of fruit or a carrot, a piece of cheese, a handful of nuts or some plain popcorn will reduce the hunger at pick up time - no need to stop at the dairy!



- ♥ Once home, toast with peanut butter might hit the spot or offer some wholegrain crackers with cheese or cottage cheese, a cold glass of milk, a pottle of yoghurt or a fruit smoothie.

For more information, visit www.heartfoundation.org.nz



Have you thought about becoming a board member for your school?

Come along to NZSTA's Kōrari Programme to find out about becoming a school trustee on a school board!

We are holding a community hui at Wellington High School on 1 April 2019 at 6.00 pm in the lead up to this year's board of trustees' elections.

At the hui you'll hear about:

- What is a school board of trustees
- What do trustees do
- What skills do trustees need
- Who can become a trustee
- How do I become a trustee
- Who is on a board of trustees
- How is a board elected
- What help do school trustees get
- How does the board of trustees work

We look forward to seeing you and helping your school's succession planning!



nzsta.org.nz



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twitter.com/NZSchoolTrustee

Kōrari – a programme that provides you with governance training to help you understand the role of school boards of trustees